

WASHINGTON - Today, the U.S. House of Representatives approved H.R. 2295, the "ALS Registry Act of 2007" by a vote of 411-3. Congressmen Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Lee Terry (R-NE) introduced the bill on May 14, 2007, and were joined by 275 bipartisan cosponsors in supporting the legislation. The bill provides for the creation of a nationwide registry for persons afflicted with ALS. A national registry will help identify the occurrence and frequency of ALS and other motor neuron disorders and collect data which is needed for ALS research.

**"All diseases bring hardships on those afflicted, but ALS is particularly cruel in the quickness of the onset, the severity of the symptoms and the fatal nature of the condition", said Congressman Terry. Terry added, "The provisions in our bill creating a nationwide registry for persons afflicted with ALS are important steps forward in strengthening the efforts to understand, treat and one day eradicate this terrible disease."**

ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) is a fatal, progressive, neurodegenerative disease affecting motor nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. Approximately 5,600 people in the United States are diagnosed with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease each year. It is estimated that as many as 30,000 Americans have the disease. There is no known cure for ALS.



